APPENDIX

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody (mAb) specific for an epitope ~~unique to~~ of an inactivated feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV)-encoded glycoprotein, wherein the mAb specifically reacts with or recognizes the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein.

Claim 2 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 wherein the inactivated FIV is FIV-Shizuoka (FIV-Shiz) or FIV-Petaluma.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said glycoprotein (gp) is gp95 or gp130.

Claim 4 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 produced from a hybridoma cell line suitable for obtaining of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein prepared by immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response, and fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line, and screening hybridomas for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 4 wherein the cell line is suitable for obtaining a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein selected from gp 95 and gp 130.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 4 produced from the cell line deposited at the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) under Accession No. PTA-4837.

Claim 7 (Original): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 which is mAb 1D9.

Claim 8 (Original): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 3 wherein said glycoprotein is gp95.

Claim 9 (Original): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 2 wherein said FIV is FIV-Shiz.

Claim 10 (Original): Monoclonal antibody according to claim 1 or claim 4 wherein said FIV has been inactivated by treatment with formalin.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn – Currently amended): A method for the detection of an epitope of ~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of ~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, wherein the monoclonal antibody specifically reacts with or recognizes the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn – Currently amended): A method for determining the quantity of an inactivated FIV in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, wherein the monoclonal antibody specifically reacts with or recognizes the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn – Currently amended): A method for determining the potency of an inactivated FIV in a sample which comprises: contacting said sample with a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, wherein the monoclonal antibody specifically reacts with or recognizes the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein, to form a complex; and detecting said complex.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn – Currently amended): The method according to any of claims 11, 12 or 13 wherein the monoclonal antibody is a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn – Currently amended): A method for the preparation of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein which comprises immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response, fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line to generate hybridoma cells, screening said hybridoma cells for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV, and then selecting a stable clone, growing said stable clone and harvesting the desired monoclonal antibodies, wherein the monoclonal antibody specifically reacts with or recognizes the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15 wherein the inactivated FIV is FIV-Shiz or FIV-Petaluma.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): The method according to claim 15 wherein said inactivated FIV is FIV-Shiz.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The method according to any of claims 15 wherein said FIV has been inactivated by treatment with formalin.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): A hybridoma cell line suitable for obtaining of monoclonal antibodies specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein, wherein the monoclonal antibodies specifically react with or recognize the epitope of the inactivated FIV or inactivated FIV glycoprotein but does not react with or recognize live FIV or live FIV glycoprotein, prepared by immunizing a suitable host with a partially purified, inactivated FIV, screening the host for high FIV-specific antibody response,

and fusing splenocytes from said host with a suitable myeloma cell line, and screening hybridomas for specific reactivity with inactivated FIV wherein there is no reaction with or recognition of live FIV.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The cell line of claim 19 which is suitable for obtaining a monoclonal antibody specific for an epitope of~~unique to~~ an inactivated FIV-encoded glycoprotein selected from gp 95 and gp 130.

Claim 21 (Original): The cell line of claim 19 for obtaining a monoclonal antibody which is mAb 1D9.

Claim 22 (Original): The cell line deposited at the American Type Culture Collection under Accession No. PTA-4837.